

(b) The government of Madhya Pradesh have inquired into the reports of the starvation deaths in the state in the wake of drought conditions and found that they were not based on facts.

(c) The relief measures taken by the State Government in the wake of drought conditions, particularly in tribal areas, include the following:

- (i) Adequate foodgrains have been made available in the fair price shops in tribal areas of Surguna district and particularly in Wadrafnagar tehsil through a network of 403 food distribution centres and 8 mobile vans.
- (ii) 1670 relief work are going on in the district employing on an average more than 48000 people daily. In Wadrafnagar tehsil only, 94 works are going on employing more than 10000 labourers on daily basis.
- (iii) A team of doctors is regularly visiting the rural areas of Wadrafnagar tehsil to give medical aid.

Area Under Oilseed Cultivation

5751. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Min-

ister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the area in hectares under cultivation of groundnut and other oilseeds during the last three years;

(b) whether any step has been taken to increase the area under cultivation of groundnut and other oilseeds in view of rising prices of edible oils; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) A detailed giving area under nine oilseeds in India during 1988-89, 1990-91 is given in attached statement.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. A scheme namely Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is under implementation in 282 districts selected across 18 oilseed growing States. The strategy adopted under OPP is to achieve higher production by both increasing the productivity and expansion of area through increasing production and availability of seed, distribution of seed minikits, plant protection measures, demonstration of improved farm technology, front line demonstration by ICAR/State Agricultural Universities, distribution of Rhizobium culture etc.

STATEMENT

		(Area '000 Hectares)			
Crop		1988-89	1989-90	1990-91	
1	2	3	4	5	
	Groundnut				
	Kharif	7023.8	7402.4	6756.4	
	Rabi	1504.8	1307.8	1540.8	
	Total	8528.6	8710.2	8297.2	
	Castorseed	631.3	702.2	807.4	
	Sesamum	2447.9	2386.5	2594.6	
	Nigerseed	604.3	621.6	615.5	
	Rapeseed & Mustard	4832.2	4967.0	5722.4	
	Linseed	1198.9	1124.4	1148.3	
	Safflower	815.5	842.3	821.2	
	Sunflower				
	Kharif	644.9	548.1	710.1	
	Rabi	458.9	644.2	931.6	
	Total	1103.8	1192.3	1641.7	

(Area '000 Hectares)					
Crop	1	2	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91
			3	4	5
Soya-Bean			1734.1	2253.0	2365.3
Total Nine Oilseeds		Kharrif	13086.3	13913.8	13849.4
		Rabi	8810.3	8885.7	10164.3
		Total	21896.6	22799.5	24013.7